The Alameda County Superior Court Probate Examiner's Office has recently changed its practice as related to meeting with attorneys; Probate Examiners no longer meet with attorneys on the morning of their hearings to review declarations correcting procedural problems identified in Examiner notes. This change has been made in response to reduced staffing levels, and based on a review of other similarly-sized courts' practices.

Declarations to correct procedural deficiencies may be faxed via Premium Fax Filing, which offers same day service; documents received by 2:30 pm are filed the same day. The Premium Fax filing number is 510-267-5739.

Documents may also be filed directly at the Berkeley Courthouse prior to 2:30 pm. <u>Endorsed Filed</u> copies can be faxed to the Examiners at 510-647-4428, or can be placed in the Examiner's drop box.

In all but the most exigent circumstances, matters that are not procedurally ready by 2:30 pm the day *prior* to the hearing will be continued on the Court's own motion.

Please direct any questions about this practice change to Ms. Leah Wilson, Court Executive Officer, at lwilson@alameda.courts.ca.gov.